

Introduction

Colorado Basin River Forecast Center

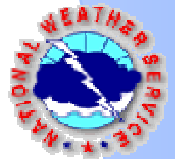
**NWS Workshop on Hydrologic Forecasting
Prague Campus
Czech University of Agriculture
June 20-24, 2005**



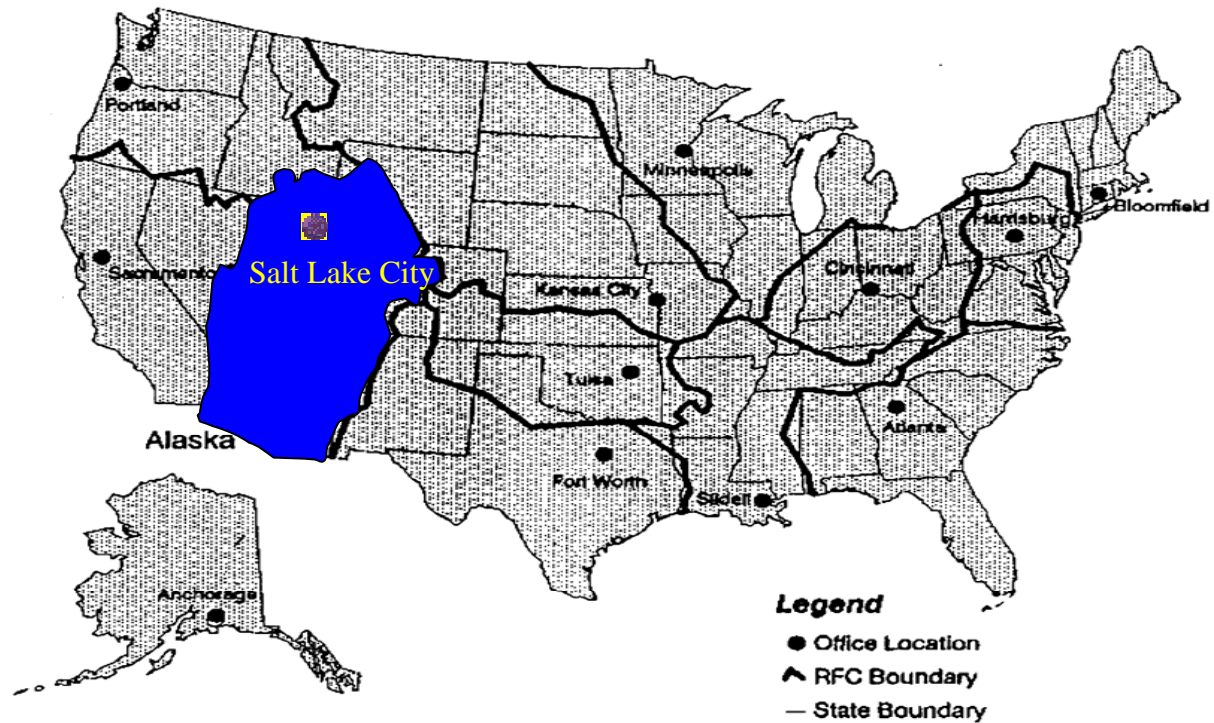
Mission of RFC-NWS

Hydrologic Services Program

- Provide river and flood forecasts and warnings for the protection of lives and property.
- Provide basic hydrologic forecast information for the nation's environmental and economic well being.



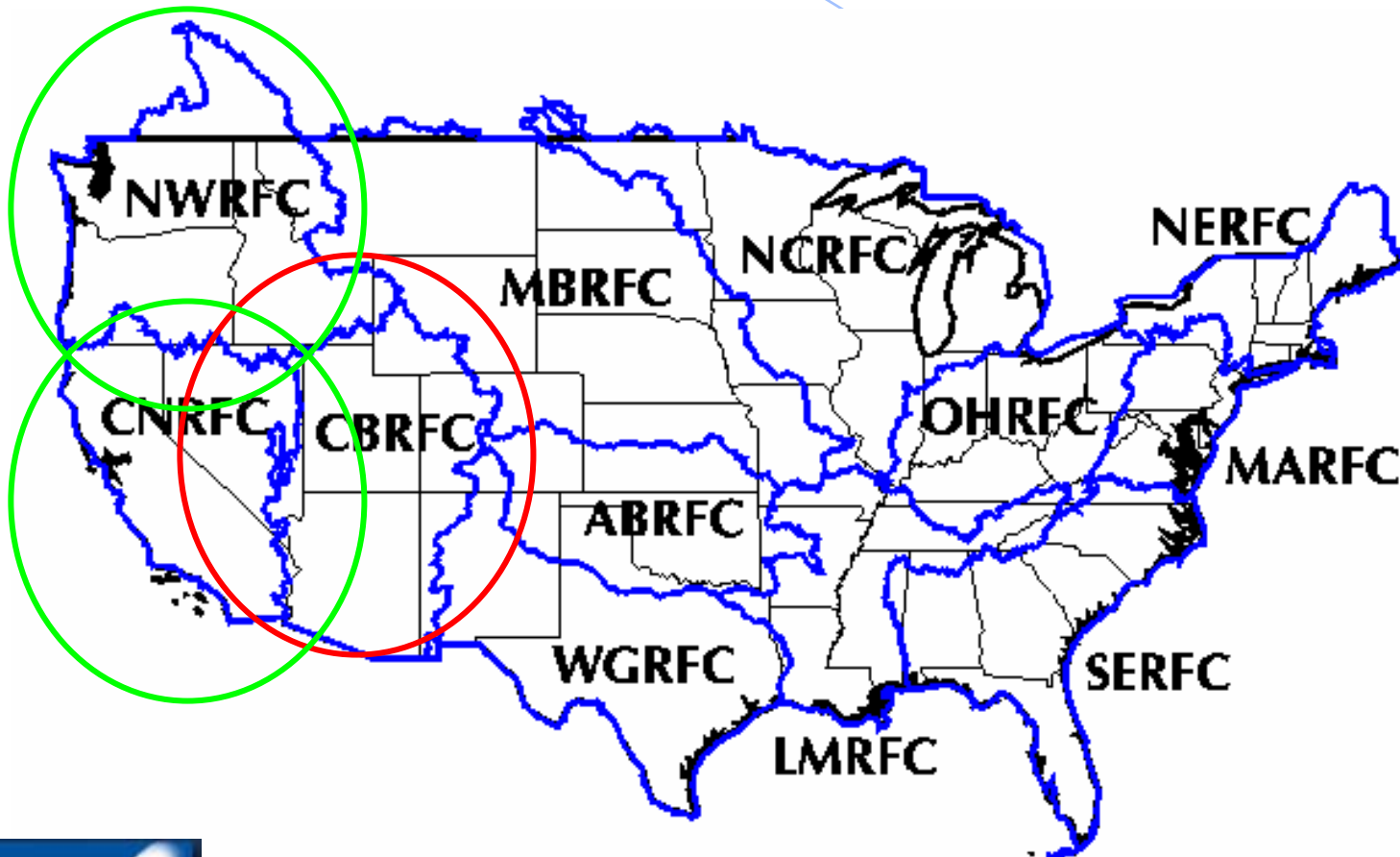
Location



NWS RIVER FORECAST CENTERS



NWS River Forecast Centers



Staffing at CBRFC

- 1 Hydrologist in Charge
- 1 Developmental Operational Hydrologist
- 4 Senior Hydrologists
- 1 Senior Hydrometeorologist
- 2 Hydrometeorologists
- 3 Hydrologists
- 1 Information Technology Support
- 1 Administrative Assistant
- 14 Total

Other RFCs vary from 14-18 Staff



Services



Flash Flood Forecasts/Warnings



River Forecasts/Warnings



Recreational Forecasts



Water Supply/Management



Customers And Users

- Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs)
- Federal Water Management Agencies
- State Water Management Agencies
- City / County Flood Control Operations
- Public / Private Utilities
- Press (Television/Radio/Newspapers)



Colorado Basin River Forecast Center – Salt Lake City, Utah



Office Building



Operations Area

Operations Area



Colorado Basin

**Drainage Area:
785,905 KM²**

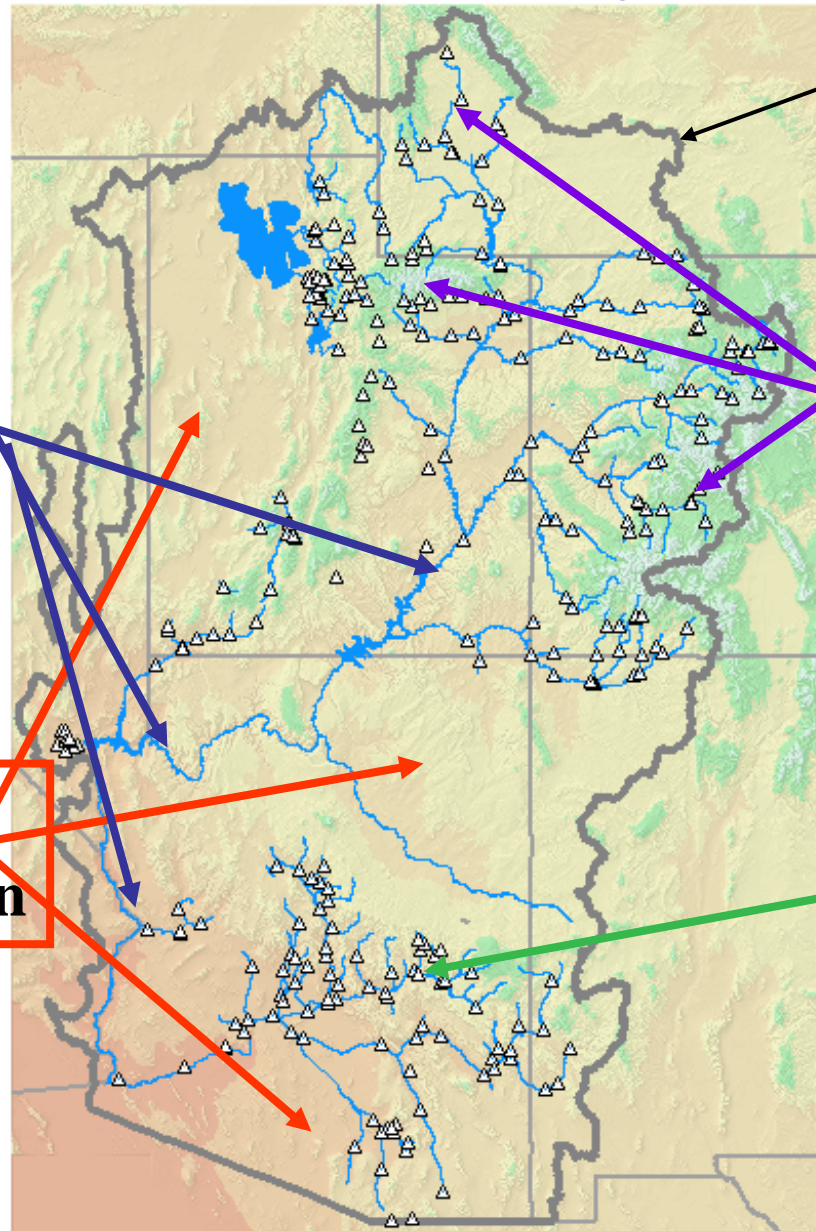
Colorado River

Basin Outline

**High Elevation
Mostly Snow**

**Mostly Desert
Low Precipitation**

**Some High
Elevations
Rain/Snow Mix**



A Variety of Forecast Challenges In the Colorado River Basin



**La Plata Creek, Colorado
High Alpine Area**



**Unnamed Dry Creek, Arizona
Desert Area**





Five Year Drought Period



Last Year 2004



This Year 2005





**Lake Powell - Utah
Record Low Lake Level
Due to 5 Years Of Drought**



**Colorado River
Dead Horse State Park, Utah**



**Flash Flood/Gypsum Creek
Las Vegas, Nevada**

